



COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy

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Seismic Micro-Technology, Inc. Provides Three-Year, \$226,600 Software Grant To Virginia Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy

Richmond, VA - Seismic Micro-Technology, Inc. (SMT), a company that has developed and sold geoscience computer software technology since 1984, has donated a three-year software network license to the Virginia Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy (DMME). The software grant, which is valued at \$226,600, provides DMME with SMT's KINGDOM Suite+ software package and network license for up to three users, and maintenance fees for three years. The agency can renew the right for free use of the software every three years.

According to DMME Director Gene Dishner, the software grant will provide the agency with a valuable tool that will enhance its capabilities to analyze and interpret important geophysical and geological data. "The need to better understand Virginia's fossil fuel and mineral resources in the face of their increased demand is of vital importance," said Dishner. "This software will assist us in assessing past, present and future fossil fuel development and help promote the safe production of fossil fuel and mineral resources. We are grateful to SMT for providing us with their valuable product."

DMME plans to use the software to analyze the data from the more than 6,000 natural gas and oil wells in the agency's inventory to understand the current hydrocarbon resources being developed, and to identify new and emerging areas where hydrocarbons could be produced. In 2003, the value of Virginia's gas and oil production was \$404 million, or 19% of the value of the total mineral and fossil fuel production in Virginia. From 1999 to 2003, gas production in Virginia increased 39 percent, and coalbed methane accounted for 77 percent of the gas produced.

The software will also be used to interpret much of the same data to augment the ongoing coal resource assessment and coal mined extent studies underway. Virginia coal production in 2003 was valued at \$960 million, or 46% of the value of the total mineral and fossil fuel production in Virginia. Coal supplied 50% of the electricity generation in Virginia. Virginia is among the top ten coal producing states in the U.S.

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